



CANBERRA CITY FARM STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2029

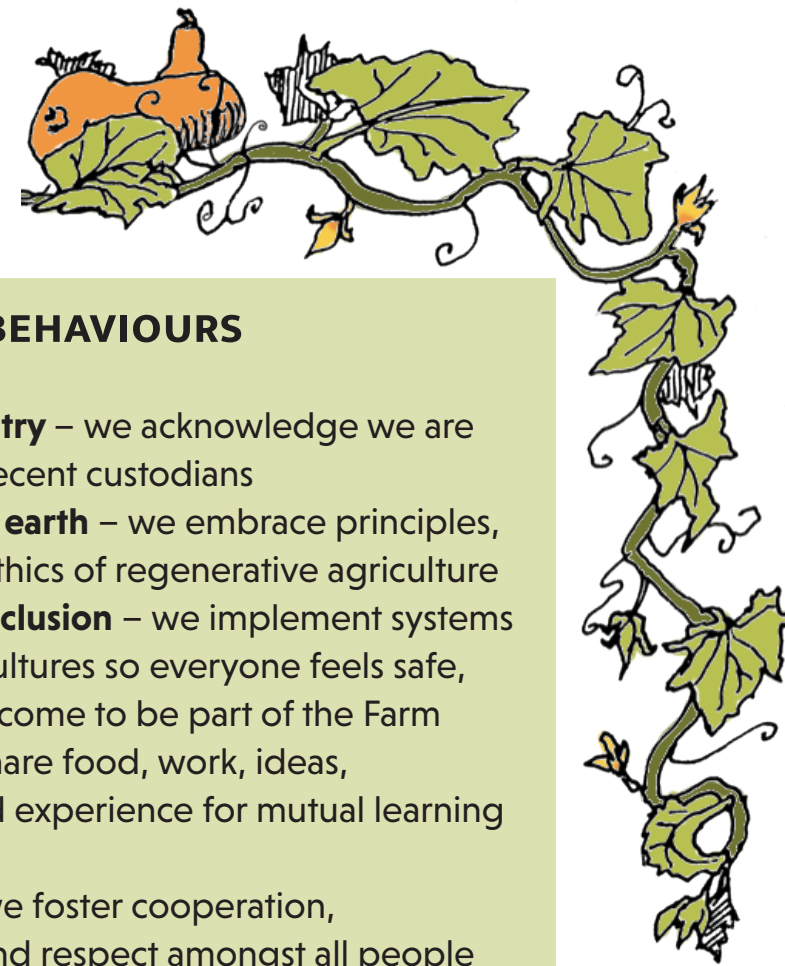
VISION

A thriving community, learning to regenerate the soil and develop sustainable food systems.

PURPOSE

We will inspire positive change in Canberra's regional food systems and cultures by creating a city farm that:

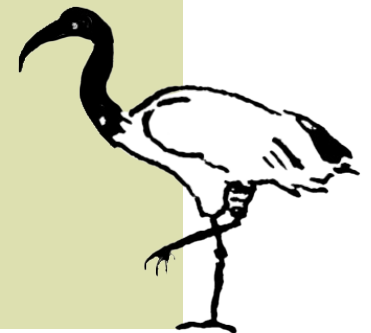
- is owned and run by the community
- educates and supports people to grow food, fibre and therapeutic plants for themselves and others
- is built on collaboration, valuing the mix of communal gardens, individual allotments and partner organisations.



VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

The farm values:

- **caring for Country** – we acknowledge we are only the most recent custodians
- **kindness to the earth** – we embrace principles, methods and ethics of regenerative agriculture
- **diversity and inclusion** – we implement systems and promote cultures so everyone feels safe, valued and welcome to be part of the Farm
- **sharing** – we share food, work, ideas, knowledge and experience for mutual learning and fun
- **community** – we foster cooperation, collaboration and respect amongst all people involved with the Farm
- **innovation and creativity** – we welcome trialling new and progressive ideas
- **effective communication** – we have a commitment to ensuring everyone is well-informed, consulted and included
- **accountability and integrity** – we value open and honest governance processes, and positive ways to transform conflict.





STRATEGIC ACTIONS



1. A Strong Shared Vision

- Implement this strategic plan by developing core documents, including
 - an annual business plan
 - a site plan
- Form an Advisory Panel, able to provide advice and expert opinion to the Farm
- Acknowledge the unique location of the Farm neighbouring the Jerrabomberra Wetlands, and cultivate positive, dynamic relationships with the ACT Government
- Secure our licence with the ACT Government and manage the Farm with respect for the terms of this licence
- Develop paid positions for key Farm roles
- Engender a culture and reputation for the Farm that encourages sponsorship and investment
- Develop and sustain strong marketing and communication tools and processes.

4. A Hub for Like-Minded Organisations and a Leader in Advocacy for Local Food

- Collaborate and partner with like-minded local organisations
- Provide advocacy, leadership and inspiration on issues related to sustainable food systems, and have a voice in forums such as the Canberra Region Food Strategy.

2. A Warm and Inviting Culture for All, Building a Thriving Community

- Develop and sustain a culture of respect, cooperation, sharing and collaboration
- Foster engagement with local Indigenous communities
- Focus on building our community and our volunteer base, increasing participation, promoting diversity, and welcoming people with all levels of experience
- Promote cultural learning that recognises and values diverse communities
- Encourage the sharing of food, ideas, work, knowledge, skills, time and fun
- Integrate art and creativity into Farm activities
- Celebrate our community and what we do through events such as open days and Monthly Mingles.

5. Transparent, Accountable and Responsive Governance

- Develop Farm plans, policies and procedures in consultation with our community, and make them accessible
- Resolve disputes in a professional, respectful, timely and safe manner
- Emphasise communication practices, both internal and external, to ensure a well-informed membership.

3. A Centre for Learning, Innovation and Creativity

- Expand our education programs in accordance with our values and vision
- Demonstrate regenerative agriculture methods and maximise our food production
- Optimise land use and infrastructure for learning and growing food
- Set up learning trails through the Farm and provide learning journeys for schools and other communities
- Develop programs that respond to the needs of communities who would benefit from the therapeutic and social advantages of growing food
- Demonstrate options for sustainable living and climate adaptation
- Develop programs that reach out to people experiencing food insecurity, such as cost-of-living barriers to obtaining fresh food
- Trial new and progressive ideas, and foster innovation.

6. Sustainable Finances

- Establish financial stability that supports paid positions and Farm expenditure
- Work towards becoming self-supporting, fostering projects and partnerships to cover costs
- Expand funding sources for the Farm, including sponsorship, grants, fundraising and investment
- Maintain transparent and professional financial practices.